

PANTHER LOOSE.

Panic Among Wild Animals on the Steamship Pisa.

BRUTE KILLED BY A KEEPER.

Steorage Passengers Badly Frightened, But No One Was Hurt—A Record Cargo of Beasts.

NEW YORK, May 13.—As the steamship Pisa, from Hamburg, dropped anchor off the South Central Pier, in Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon, there came from that part of her known as "No. 2 'tween decks," a chorus of animal sounds. They were from a cargo of beasts said to be the largest ever brought across the Atlantic. In it were elephants, tigers, leopards, camels and other kinds of animals, together with a large assortment of birds and reptiles.

With the exception of one night the trip was quiet in No. 2 'tween decks. But in that one night, Jake, the unruly sacred panther, caused enough trouble to throw the whole ship into a panic. As was afterward learned, he had been gnawing the wooden edges of his cage for days, and enough progress had been made by that night to dislodge two of the iron bars that separated him from freedom. Creeping out stealthily, he made his way to the elephants' corner, and then, uttering a piercing shriek, he leaped in the air, and landed on the trunk of the Goddess Diana, a three-year-old elephant of mild disposition.

Then pandemonium was turned loose. Diano reared and kicked as the panther's claws tore long strips of flesh from her trunk, and all the other elephants, ten in number, sent up answering howls. Over in the far end of the menagerie six big tigers growled and tore at their cage bars, while lion-keepers hissed, bears grunted, and more than 2,000 canary birds emitted terrified chirps.

Kangaroos, camels, leopards and the rest, joined in the chorus, the only silent members of the party being a pair of flying foxes, which were swung to the ceiling in a wire cage. They played their part, however, for some of them managed to open the door of his prison in some way, after which they flew, head downward, according to their custom, straight toward the cause of the fracas. Alighting on his back they bit him about the ears and head until he relaxed his hold on the Goddess Diana, and fled to a corner. Then the flying foxes returned to their cage.

Meanwhile, 300 immigrants, who were in the rear of the ship, and only separated from the animals by a thin partition, were trying to offset the noises made by the animals. The men howled lustily, uncertain whether the boat was sinking, or the last day at hand, and the women wept aloud or fainted, as was most convenient. Strenuous efforts on the part of the officers in charge of that quarter were necessary to keep them from crowding up through the hatchways and stampeding the decks.

Four men, Second Officer H. Von Marbom, and the three keepers who had the animals in charge, had rushed down into the menagerie, meanwhile. Hardly had Von Marbom reached the foot of the ladder, when Jake, the panther, dived at him, tearing away the front of his coat, but not striking the flesh. The officer dodged back up the ladder forthwith, preceded by the keepers, and then the four held a council of war. Lanterns were swung down into the darkness below, in order to locate Jake, who was seen making for his corner at the first approach of light.

Karl Zeller, one of the keepers, then procured a Mauser rifle and cautiously descended again. In less than a minute after the escaped beast lay dead where he had sought refuge, and the trouble was over, save for the cries of the other animals, which could not be quieted for hours.

After most of the noise had died away one elephant still refused to be pacified. He was the biggest of the lot, named Canuri, and his cage was on the upper deck, because there was not room for him below. According to the ship's officers, his yells, which he will utter on a command from his keeper, died away with the necessity of a few horns when they were sailing along the Banks.

Most of the animals came from the Hagenback Zoological Gardens, in Berlin, and nearly all were consigned to William Barrels, of this city. Ultimately they will be divided among Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago and the Glen Island Zoological Gardens. The chief keeper during the voyage was George Springer.

In the cargo were eleven elephants, six tigers, 2,000 canary birds, one yak, two trained gnus, 300 monkeys, twelve ostriches, two boxing kangaroos, a puma, an ibis (sacred bird of the Nile), fourteen leopards and fifty boxes of

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EXPANSION MAP OF THE UNITED STATES.



Look on the above eloquent showing, and then consider the attitude of the Bryan Democracy to-day. The above map gives the facts as to previous expansions of the area of the United States. Note that each expansion was under a Democratic administration, and that in every case but one the territory was taken under the direct control of the United States, "without the consent of the governed." The exception was Texas, which was annexed in 1845. One of these expansions was the result of the Mexican war, and that area is marked "Forcible Democratic expansion." The first Republican expansion was the acquisition of Alaska in 1867; the second, that of Hawaii in 1898; the third, that of Porto Rico, Guam and the Philippines, by treaty with Spain.

TOPICS OF THE SCHOOLS.

There is much talk these days concerning the great prosperity of our state, and indeed, West Virginia is taking her place among the very foremost states in the union. In a few years, when all her material wealth is fully developed, she will be among the richest, if not the richest state in the union, in proportion to size. But it is not this wealth especially to which attention is called, in these notes, but more particularly the causes which have led to it. The politician attributes it to the policy of his party, let that party be which it may, the capitalist claims that to him belongs the honor because with his money he has built railroads, felled the forests, opened the mines and started manufacturing plants all over the state. These both have done their part and will so continue to do in the years to come, but our schools have done more than everything else combined to make us what we are as a state to-day, and as they become better or worse in the years to come, so will our state rise or fall in importance as a factor in this great nation. The true development of our state must be done by the educated brain and the developed muscles of West Virginia's own sons and daughters. Our schools, from the lowest district school in the state to the university, of which we are all so proud, or should be, are doing their part in causing the great uplift that our state has been getting during the past few years. Silently but surely the heaven has worked, is working and will continue to work until our entire population will partake of the culture which is the result of the work in our public schools. Some will laugh at this and deride the thought that there is anything elevating in our free schools, as they are sneeringly called, but, although they are not perfect, still they are the greatest factor at work in the elevation of the race, and as they grow better the race becomes better.

As an addendum to the above the writer is pleased to note that our governor gives the schools credit for the work they have done in making our state what it is to-day. In his speech at Fairmont a few days ago, he referred to our public schools as one of the greatest agencies of the many which have resulted in making our state so prosperous. Our politicians are not in the habit of putting anything other than party in the fore front. They generally attribute all prosperity as the result of party policy when the truth is the silent influences at work in our schools are giving to us a manhood and a womanhood that will insure prosperity in spite of any policy that may be adopted by any party. Our governor, let what else may be said of him, has a good heart and a wise head, when it comes to the general welfare of the people. He is a friend of education, and is willing to do all in his power to make our schools better.

May 25 being the Friday preceding Decoration Day, will be observed by the Wheeling schools, as has been the case ever since it has been set apart as "patriotic day." The literary exercises of that day will be of a patriotic nature with the object in view to instill into the minds of our boys and girls a true patriotism, a patriotism that will revere our own country above all others, and will look upon the flag as the emblem of liberty, let it be seen where it may. We need a patriotism also that will cause our boys to be willing to fight for the flag when they become men, should the necessity arise. An army of patriotic citizens is the bulwark of a free people. Give us an educated, patriotic and Christian citizenship and our nation is safe for all time.

A general meeting of the teachers of Ritchie school was held by the superintendent in the grammar school room, on Wednesday morning of last week. All the teachers were present, and Mr. Anderson gave an interesting talk, dwelling particularly on the subject of business arithmetic, speaking more especially of commission and brokerage and true and bank discount. He gave some good hints to the teachers on how to be prepared at all times to solve problems under these important rules. It will be, greatly to the benefit of the teachers to

take advantage of all hints they can get just at this particular time.

The next mothers' meeting will be held on Wednesday afternoon of this week, at 3 o'clock, at Ritchie annex building. A full attendance is desired and is expected, as this is the last meeting of the year at the annex building. The meeting at the main building will be held Thursday afternoon, May 24. These meetings have already been productive of much good, and they will be a much greater power for good as their object becomes better known and all the mothers attend them. The writer has been asked time and again why these meetings are held, have the results been as great for good as he expected, will they be continued, etc. To all who have asked the questions the one answer has been given. They have been of great benefit. Teachers and mothers have been thus brought together, who would perhaps never have become acquainted, at least, as they do at these meetings. The relations between teacher and parents are discussed, the teacher and the mother consult concerning the good of the child. The teacher finds out what the parent thinks of the child, and through this she may know the influence of home on the pupil, and thus in many ways the burden of discipline is lightened and the task of instructing is in many cases made comparatively easy. Our schools are the people's schools; they belong to the parents and the more the parents know about them, the better for all concerned.

Principals A. B. Cummins and D. C. Tabler, of Jefferson and Park schools, respectively, Parkersburg, were visiting Wheeling schools on Friday of last week. They spent the forenoon in Washington and Lincoln schools, and the afternoon at the main building, Ritchie school. Mr. Cummins is a graduate of West Liberty normal school, being a member of the first class that received diplomas from that school. Both gentlemen rank high as educators and they will be welcomed whenever they see fit to visit our schools in the very best shape. They close June 8. A class of about twenty will receive diplomas. Prof. U. S. Fleming, the superintendent of the Parkersburg schools, is well liked, as he always has been wherever he has taught in the past.

THE PEDAGOGUE.

MARTINSBURG ITEMS.

B. & O. Shops to Open Up—Increase of Wages Demanded. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MARTINSBURG, W. Va., May 13.—It is the expectation of the company of Pittsburgh capitalists to begin operations and commence mining their iron ore here at once. It is proposed to rent the Baltimore & Ohio shops here which have been idle for a year. A geologist who recently went over this country, discovered four kinds of ore, red lentic, limonite, wadgite and ordinary pipe ore. A corps of engineers have been engaged and are already at work surveying for the several switches that are to be built from the main line of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad.

At a large meeting of employees of the Standard Lime & Stone Company, held Friday night, it was agreed to make a demand for \$1.25 per diem, and ten hours to constitute a day's work. At present the men receive ten cents an hour, and are required to work eleven hours a day. The employees have been complaining for some time and the matter culminated in the mass meeting last night. The manager of the company has declared that rather than submit to the demands of the men he will shut down for the present anyhow, and endeavor to employ Italian labor. The pay roll of the company consists of 350 men.

The employees of the dye house of the Kilbourn knitting mills have asked for an increase of pay to twelve and one-half cents per hour. They now receive ten cents per hour. The company has declared its inability to give any increase at present. The employees state that they will not resort to any radical measures to secure the increase they ask for.

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